

Are you monsoon ready?

Tips for before, during and after a storm



Before

Prepare a 3-day family disaster supply kit including:

- ❑ 3 gallons of water in clean, closed containers for each person/pet
- ❑ Flashlights
- ❑ Battery-operated radio
- ❑ Spare batteries
- ❑ Nonperishable food that doesn't need to be heated
- ❑ Medications/prescriptions
- ❑ First aid kit
- ❑ Back-up power source for cell phone chargers and medical equipment that requires electricity to function

Trim trees sensibly so they are away from windows and roofs; thin tree canopy to help prevent limb breakage and uprooting.

Inspect and clean your roof drainage system including gutters and scuppers.

Check current weather forecasts.

Clear debris from street gutters adjacent to your property to help prevent street flooding.

Secure loose items on your property, such as patio and pool furniture.

If you live in a flood-prone area, have an evacuation plan and place sandbags to prevent flooding of your home/property. Tempe provides free sand and sandbags – visit www.tempe.gov/monsoons for locations and information.

Unplug expensive electronics (TV, stereo, home entertainment centers, and computers) and/or install power protection devices.

During

Bring pets indoors. Lightning and thunder are very scary for pets, and they are likely to panic or even run away to try and escape the storm.

Stay away from downed power lines. Call 911 to report downed power lines.

If a power line comes into contact with your vehicle, remain inside the vehicle until help arrives. Do not attempt to get out of the vehicle. Use a cell phone, if available, to notify emergency services of the exact location.

Follow traffic control signage/barricades. Driving around barricades is illegal and dangerous.



If a traffic signal is out, treat the intersection as a 4-way stop.

Avoid flooded areas and low-water crossings.

Turn off electric appliances that were on before power was lost. Leave one light on as an indicator for when power is restored.

After

Fallen trees that are blocking major roadways/intersections/alleyways or any safety concerns: contact Tempe Police non-emergency at 480-350-8311.



Fallen trees/debris NOT blocking major roadways/intersections or posing a safety concern: contact Tempe 311 at 480-350-4311 (Mon.-Fri., 7 a.m.-5 p.m.) or www.tempe.gov/311.



Fallen trees/debris on private property/alleyways: Place material for bulk/green collection, by following the guidelines at: www.tempe.gov/slashthetrash. Or contact a third-party landscape service for removal/clean-up.

If you have storm damage, please indicate it on our monsoon map so we can track and take appropriate action if necessary. Find a link at: www.tempe.gov/monsoons.

Water safety

Don't play or swim in flooded areas. Water may be contaminated with chemicals and E.coli bacteria.



Wash hands and disinfect any items that come in contact with flood waters.

Avoid exposure to flood waters if you have an open wound; cover with a waterproof bandage and keep clean; if a wound develops redness, swelling, or drainage, seek immediate medical attention.

Resources

City of Tempe Landscape Referral – Tree and debris removal at discount rates: www.tempe.gov/code

SRP storm info: www.srpnet.com/safety/storm/

Centers for Disease Control – Flood water safety: <http://emergency.cdc.gov/disasters/floods/cleanupwater.asp>

Tree trimming and care guidelines: www.treesaregood.com

For more information, call 480-350-4311 or visit www.tempe.gov/monsoons.